UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/535,470	05/17/2005	Peter Jan Slikkerveer	259350	6155

23460 7590 07/10/2008

LEYDIG VOIT & MAYER, LTD
TWO PRUDENTIAL PLAZA, SUITE 4900
180 NORTH STETSON AVENUE
CHICAGO, IL 60601-6731

EXAMINER	
MA, CALVIN	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2629	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
07/10/2008	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/535,470	SLIKKERVEER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	CALVIN C. MA	2629	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *26 March 2008*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,5-9,11,12 and 17-23* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1,5-9,11,12 and 17-23* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 11-12 and 22-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sawyer USPG Pub. 2004/0052037.

As to claim 22, Sawyer discloses a display device assembly (200) comprising:

a flexible display device being rollable around at least one axis between a rolled-up and an unrolled state (i.e. the display is rollable around the perpendicular axis of scroll 218) (see Fig. 9),

the flexible display having a front side and a back side,

one of the sides being provided with distance means (208) for preventing a direct contact between the front side and the back side, and wherein the distance means comprises a protection foil with a surface having a soft surface that touches the front side of the display surface in the rolled-up state (i.e. since the foil can bend with the display 102 it is soft) (see Fig. 9-10, [0039], [0040]) .

As to claim 23, Sawyer teaches a flexible display assembly according to claim 22 wherein the protection foil (108) is connected to the back side of the display (i.e. the protection foil is connected to the back of the display 102) (see Fig. 4, [0032]).

As to claim 11, Sawyer teaches a flexible display assembly according to claim 22, wherein the display assembly further comprises guiding means (222) for guiding the protection foil when the assembly is being rolled into the unrolled state, such that the front side of the display is not covered by the protection foil (i.e. the handle bar consists of the guiding means by which is display is placed into unrolled state and there fore having the front of the display not cover by the protection foil 208) (see Fig. 10, [0039], [0040]).

As to claim 12, Sawyer teaches a flexible display assembly according to claim 11, wherein the protection foil is connected to the back side of the display (see Fig. 9-10, [0039], [0040]).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1, 5-9, and 17-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sawyer USPG Pub. 2004/0052037 in view of Radley-Smith USP 7209114.

As to claim 1, Sawyer discloses a display device assembly (i.e. the portable computer device having flexible display device 200) comprising a flexible display device (102) being rollable around an axis (i.e. spool axis 218), the flexible display having a front side (i.e. the side of the display that is facing the user) and a back side (i.e. the side of the display that is facing away from the user), one of the sides being provided with distance means (i.e. the extension member 208 provide distance when the display is rolled up) for preventing a direct contact between the front side (3) and the back side (see Fig. 7-10, [0037], [0038], [0039]).

However Sawyer does not explicitly teach the distance means comprising bars positioned to extend substantially parallel to the axis. Radley-Smith teaches the distance means (i.e. the bar for the rollable display) comprises bars positioned to extend substantially parallel to the axis (i.e. the rolling motion that open and close the display clearly is parallel to the bar configuration instead of a perpendicular configuration) (see Fig. 1, 17, Col. 18, Lines 5-37)

Therefore it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have adopted the bar separation design of Radley-Smith to the rollable computer display system of Sawyer (i.e. the provide for support bars in both parallel and perpendicular direction for the flexible display support system)

in order to provide a design for easy transportation and storage (see Radley-Smith Col. 1, Lines 22-24).

As to claim 20, Sawyer teaches a flexible display device assembly comprising: a flexible display device being rollable around at least one axis between a rolled-up and an unrolled state (i.e. the display scrolling into the housing) (see Sawyer, Fig. 9),

the flexible display having a front side and a back side (i.e. the bar is behind the viewable display area) (see Sawyer, Fig. 5),

the material of the bars being flexible (i.e. the bars scroll along with the display),

Radley-Smith teaches one of the sides being provided with bars (12A), which are positioned extending substantially parallel to the axis (i.e. the 12A bars are parallel with the axis of rolling) (see Radley-Smith, Fig. 1-3, Col. 12, Lines 17-41).

Therefore, the combination of Sawyer with Radley-Smith meets the said limitation.

As to claim 21, Sawyer teaches a flexible display device assembly according to claim 20, wherein the contact between the bars and the display is limited to a center line on each bar (i.e. since the bars of Sawyer are attached on the centerline and as only the orientation addition is taken from Bradley-Smith the structure of all of the bar must be consistent with the original design) (see Sawyer, Fig. 5).

As to claim 17, Radley-Smith teaches a flexible display device assembly

according to claim 1, wherein adjacent ones of the bars (12A) are positioned in relation to each other so as to induce a number of bending lines (26) in the flexible display device that are oriented substantially parallel to the axis, such that in the unrolled state the bars provide a stiffer structure to the display device (i.e. the display has bars serving as the supporting ribs that are parallel to the axis) (see Radley-Smith Fig. 1-3, Col. 12, Lines 17-41).

As to claim 18, Radley-Smith teaches a flexible display device assembly according to claim 17, wherein hinge (26) means are located between adjacent bars (12A) enabling a hinge function in the flexible display device between these bars (see Radley-Smith, Fig. 11-12, Col. 16, Lines 15-61).

As to claim 5, Sawyer teaches a flexible display device assembly according to claim 18, wherein the flexible display device is further provided with a layer of flexible material (i.e. the material that join the front display with the extension bar 108) that is positioned between the bars (108) and the back side (i.e. the backside of 102) of the display (i.e. from the figure 5 it is clear that the support element 108 is joined to the 102 display at the point 110 which must be attached by a adhesive material which must also be flexible since the whole assembly must be able to roll up) (see Sawyer Fig. 5, [0033], [0034]).

As to claim 6, Radley-Smith teaches a flexible display device assembly according to claim 5, wherein the bars are provided to the display in the form of a piece of material having grooves (23) that are oriented substantially parallel to the axis and that provide the hinge function (i.e. the hinge grooves 23 are parallel to the axis as it allow the bearing to be oriented this way to move accordingly) (see Radley-Smith Fig. 11-12, Col. 16, Lines 15-61)

As to claim 7, Sawyer and Radley-Smith teaches a flexible display device assembly according to claim 2, wherein outer portions (i.e. the end of the outer portion of 208) of the bars comprise spacers (12a) (i.e. the bars are the supports structure in Radley-Smith 12A which is attaching to the support 208 with handle 222) for creating a housing for the flexible display device in the rolled-up state (i.e. the bars, the support element 208 that together with the handle 222 forms a housing that contains the entire roll of flexible display inside of the computer device) (see Sawyer, Fig. 7-10, [0038], [0039], Radley-Smith Fig. 1-3, Col. 12, 17-41).

As to claim 8, Radley-Smith teaches a flexible display device assembly according to claim 7, wherein the spacer formed by spacer blocks (i.e. the combination of all of the bars 12A) that are positioned on a back side of the bars (12A) (i.e. the blocks are at the back of the display portion 12B of the device) (see Radley-Smith, Fig. 1-3, Col. 12, Lines 17-41).

As to claim 9, Sawyer and Radley-Smith teaches a flexible display device assembly according to claim 8, wherein each spacer block (12A) has a display side (i.e. the extension element 208 has a side that is facing the user) that is provided with a notch (i.e. the attachment portion of 208 of Sawyer must attach to the handle 222 form a notch) for receiving the flexible display device (i.e. the two side element 208 is attached to the handle 222 with a notch which also receives the flexible display 204) (see Fig. 9-10, [0039]).

As to claim 19, Sawyer teaches a flexible display device assembly according to claim 1, wherein the material of the bars is flexible (i.e. the material of Sawyer's bar are flexible that is able to be rolled together) (see Sawyer, Fig. 9)

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 5-11, and 17-23 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Calvin Ma whose telephone number is (571) 270-1713. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 7:30 - 5:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chanh Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-7772. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Calvin Ma
July 4, 2008

/Chanh Nguyen/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2629